Site of No. 1 Broadway. The house on this lot, built by Thomas Broen, before July, 1644, when it was mortgaged to Isaac Allerton (Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch, 29), was purchased by Pieter Laurenzen Cock, a Dane, in 1648. Broen later established himself among the Swedes on the South (Delaware) River.—Brodhead's Hist. State of N. Y., I: 511; cf. New Sweden, by Rev. Israel Acrelius, in N. Y. Hist. Soc. Collections, 1841, p. 411; N. Y. Col. Docs., XII: 372.

As early as September, 1634, Cock was a partner of Cornelis van Vorst, of Pavonia, in the ownership of a trading sloop (Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch, 8), and, undoubtedly, shared with him the very lucrative fur-trade with the Indians which Van Vorst is known to have carried on. This close association led to Cock's betrothal to Annetje, Van Vorst's daughter. After the death of her father, however, the young lady declined to fulfil her engagement of marriage, whereupon her lover sued her for breach of promise. The suit dragged on through the court for more than a year, although David Provoost, as advocate for the defendant, often urged a decision. Finally, the burgomasters and schepens decided, May 18, 1654, that, "the promise of marriage having been made and given before the Eyes of God," it should remain in force; that all the presents should remain in the possession of the lady; that neither party should marry any other person until the magistrates were apprised that they had released each other formally, and, finally, that each should pay half the expenses of the suit.—Rec. N. Am., I: 54-200.

Evidently, Anna Cornelissen van Vorst did not change her mind, for, on November 11, 1656, notice of her marriage to Claes Janszen, from Purmesendt, is given (Marriages in Ref. Dutch Ch., 21),[1] and, on June 13, 1657, banns were published between Pieter Laurenszen Cock, of Denmark, and Anneken Dircks, of Amsterdam.—Idem.

Cock was still living in January, 1660 (Rec. N. Am., III: 105), but was dead before November of that year.—Min. of Orph. Court, I: 160.

On April 25, 1661, Anna Dircks, widow, petitioned the provincial council for permission to build a house on the south corner of her lot, which was refused because it was too near the Fort.—Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch, 223. A century later, Captain Archibald Kennedy built on the south corner of this lot the house so long known as No. 1 Broadway.